

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium with computer-readable instructions for a hardware/software interface system for a computer system, wherein said hardware/software interface system manipulates a plurality of discrete units of information, Items (“Items”), said Items interconnected by a plurality of Relationships managed by said hardware/software interface system, each of said Items having a boundary comprising an item type, applicable subtype information, complex type properties and extensions if any, and a list of the other Items owned by the Item.

Claim 2 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 wherein a first Item has a Relationship from itself to a second Item.

Claim 3 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein the Relationship from said first Item to said second Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said second Item is public and accessible to said first Item.

Claim 4 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said first Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 5 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 4 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 6 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 4 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 7 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 4 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 8 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said first Item is a Category.

Claim 9 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 10 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 11 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 12 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said first Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 13 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 12 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 14 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 12 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 15 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 12 wherein said second Item is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 16 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 17 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 18 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 19 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said second Item does not have a Relationship to said first Item.

Claim 20 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein a lack of a Relationship from said second Item to said first Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said first Item is private and inaccessible to said second Item.

Claim 21 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein said first Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 22 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 21 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 23 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 21 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 24 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 21 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 25 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein said first Item is a Category.

Claim 26 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 27 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 28 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 29 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein said first Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 30 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 31 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 32 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein said second Item is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 33 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 2 wherein said second Item has a Relationship to said first Item.

Claim 34 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 33 wherein said Relationship from said first Item to said second Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said second Item is public and accessible to said first Item, and wherein said

Relationship from said second Item to said first Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said first Item is public and accessible to said second Item.

Claim 35 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 33 wherein said first Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 36 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 37 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 38 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 39 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 33 wherein said first Item is a Category.

Claim 40 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 39 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 41 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 39 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 42 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 39 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 43 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 33 wherein said first Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 44 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 43 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 45 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 43 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 46 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 43 wherein said second Item is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 47 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 wherein each Item from among said Items has a Relationship to at least one other Item.

Claim 48 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 wherein a subset of Items comprise Item Folders.

Claim 49 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 wherein a subset of Items comprise Categories.

Claim 50 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 wherein a subset of Items comprise Items that are not Item Folders or Categories.

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): A hardware/software interface system for a computer system, wherein said hardware/software interface system manipulates a plurality of discrete units of information at a hardware/software interface system level, Items (“Items”), said Items interconnected by Relationships at said hardware/software interface system level, each

of said Items having a boundary comprising an item type, applicable subtype information, complex type properties and extensions if any, and a list of the other Items owned by the Item.

Claim 52 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 51 wherein a first Item has a Relationship from itself to a second Item.

Claim 53 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein the Relationship from said first Item to said second Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said second Item is public and accessible to said first Item.

Claim 54 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said first Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 55 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said first Item is a Category.

Claim 56 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said first Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 57 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 58 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 59 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 60 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said second Item does not have a Relationship to said first Item.

Claim 61 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 60 wherein a lack of a Relationship from said second Item to said first Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said first Item is private and inaccessible to said second Item.

Claim 62 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 52 wherein said second Item has a Relationship to said first Item.

Claim 63 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 62 wherein said Relationship from said first Item to said second Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said second Item is public and accessible to said first Item, and wherein said Relationship from said second Item to said first Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said first Item is public and accessible to said second Item.

Claim 64 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 51 wherein each Item from among said Items has a Relationship to at least one other Item.

Claim 65 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 51 wherein a subset of Items comprise Item Folders.

Claim 66 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 51 wherein a subset of Items comprise Categories.

Claim 67 (Original): The hardware/software interface system of claim 51 wherein a subset of Items comprise Items that are not Item Folders or Categories.

Claim 68 (Currently Amended): A method for manipulating, in a hardware/software interface system for a computer system, a plurality of discrete units of information at a hardware/software interface system level, Items (“Items”), said method comprising interconnecting said Items by Relationships at said hardware/software interface system level, each of said Items having a boundary comprising an item type, applicable subtype information, complex type properties and extensions if any, and a list of the other Items owned by the Item.

Claim 69 (Original): The method of claim 68 further comprising the step of extending a Relationship from a first Item to a second Item.

Claim 70 (Original): The method of claim 69 further comprising the step of denoting in said hardware/software interface system that, due to said Relationship, said second Item is public and accessible to said first Item.

Claim 71 (Original): The method of claim 69 wherein said first Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 72 (Original): The method of claim 69 wherein said first Item is a Category.

Claim 73 (Original): The method of claim 69 wherein said first Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 74 (Original): The method of claim 69 wherein said second Item is an Item Folder.

Claim 75 (Original): The method of claim 69 wherein said second Item is a Category.

Claim 76 (Original): The method of claim 69 wherein said second Item is an Item that is not an Item Folder or a Category.

Claim 77 (Original): The method of claim 69 wherein said second Item does not have a Relationship to said first Item.

Claim 78 (Original): The method of claim 77 wherein a lack of a Relationship from said second Item to said first Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said first Item is private and inaccessible to said second Item.

Claim 79 (Original): The method of claim 69 further comprising the step of extending a Relationship from said second Item to said first Item

Claim 80 (Original): The method of claim 79 wherein said Relationship from said first Item to said second Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said second Item is public and accessible to said first Item, and wherein said Relationship from said second Item to said first Item logically denotes in said hardware/software interface system that said first Item is public and accessible to said second Item.

Claim 81 (Original): The method of claim 68 wherein each Item from among said Items has a Relationship to at least one other Item.

Claim 82 (Original): The method of claim 68 wherein a subset of Items comprise Item Folders.

Claim 83 (Original): The method of claim 68 wherein a subset of Items comprise Categories.

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Claim 84 (Original): The method of claim 68 wherein a subset of Items comprise Items that are not Item Folders or Categories.